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AUG.-SEPT.

Lovelorn

STIRRING STORIES of REAL ROMANCE

10¢

52
PAGES



THE GIRL I LOVE...
AND SHE'S PROMISED
TO WAIT FOR HIM
FOREVER! I WONDER...CAN
A GIRL'S LIFE HOLD JUST ONE
GREAT ROMANCE?

Now YOU CAN HAVE
DARING Newest Look BEAUTY
WITH ALL-IN-ONE
TRIOLETTE

It's All
These

{ 1-uplift bra
2-waist nipper
3-garter belt

Put your figure in style! Look feminine, curvaceous—instantly—with new marvelous TRIOLETTE. It's taken New York by storm

it's all the rage with smart girls...because it rounds you enticingly in the right places with never a bulge in the wrong ones! Lightly but cleverly boned—to pull in your waist, give fullness to hips, lift bust to alluring firm contours. No matter what shape bosom you have! Magical, you'll agree...and this one little garment does it all! In luxury rayon satin—with revealing lace inserts at bust, dainty net edging at top and bottom. Comfortable! Lastex insert, adjustable hook-and-eye back fastening, 4 adjustable garters. Bra straps included, adjustable, easy to attach. New TRIOLETTE costs little more than bra alone! We know you'll be thrilled—your money back if not 100% pleased with

your glamorous "New Look"

figure. A cup, 32 to 36.
B cup, (larger) 32 to 38.
Blue, white or nude.

BE SMARTLY
STRAPLESS OR
WEAR STRAPS
ALSO
INCLUDED



Costs so little

MAIL COUPON NOW!



For That
Thrilling
NEW LOOK

Have **Tiny Waist
-Full Bosom
FIGURE**

\$5.95 • BLUE
• WHITE
• NUDE

SEND ON 10-DAY APPROVAL

WILCO CO., Dept. 605-H
45 East 17th St., New York

Rush your new TRIOLETTE for \$5.95. CUP _____ SIZE _____
 Send C.O.D. I will pay postage. I enclose \$5.95. You pay postage

1st Color Choice

2nd Color Choice

Name _____

Address _____

City, Zone, State _____

I understand if not delighted with TRIOLETTE I can return in 10 days for full purchase price refund.



CAN A WOMAN'S
HEART GO OUT TO ONLY
ONE MAN? HAS HER LIFE
ROOM FOR BUT ONE LOVE? THIS
WAS THE SOUL-SEARING PROBLEM
THAT BLASTED THE LIFE OF CLAIRE
ANDREWS LIKE A FIERY COMET...
AND CONFRONTED HER WITH THE
MOST TRAGIC CHOICE THAT EVER
A GIRL FACED! READ THIS STIRRING
STORY IN HER OWN WORDS...

TWICE I LOVED!

"THE WAR CHANGED
MANY LIVES, READER --
PERHAPS MINE WAS NO
EXCEPTION. I REMEMBER
THE START OF THAT
CHANGE -- THAT CRAZY,
DIZZYING NEW YEARS EVE
IN 1943. JUST A GAL WITH
HER DATE -- CAPTAIN FRANK
VICKERS OF THE U.S. ARMY
AIR FORCE."

GOLLY, CLAIRE, TIMES SQUARES NO PLACE FOR
US IN THIS MOB! I'VE GOT RESERVATIONS AT
THE BLUE ROOM -- IF WE CAN EVER PUSH
OUR WAY THROUGH!

SWELL, FRANK!
LET'S SEE YOU TRY OUT
THOSE FOOTBALL
SHOULDERS OF
YOURS!



"LAUGHTER, BRIGHT LIGHTS, OH! AND EXCITEMENT
-- THEY SENT MY BLOOD RACING! EVEN FRANK
ASSUMED A NEW GLAMOUR! HE'D SEEMED MERELY
A NICE BOY ON OUR PREVIOUS DATES -- BUT TO
NIGHT HE WAS ROMANTIC!"

THAT DANCE ... YOU WERE BEAUTIFUL,
KID! LET'S GET BACK TO OUR TABLE!
THERE'S SOMETHING ... I WANT TO SAY!

OKAY -- IF I CAN MANAGE
TO HEAR YOU! I'M HALF
DEAF!





"TWELVE O'CLOCK! IT WAS THE NEW YEAR, 1944— USHERING
IN A NEW LOVE — A NEW LIFE!"



"BUT I HAD MY DREAMS--SWEET DREAMS IN WHICH WE WERE REUNITED ONCE MORE--AND THEY GAVE ME THE STRENGTH TO GO ON!"

DARLING--
DARLING--



"DREAMS,
MEMORIES,
A PHOTO-
GRAPH, AN
OCCASIONAL
LETTER...
AND ONE
DAY...
SOMETHING
ELSE!"

MISS CLAIRE ANDREWS?
TELEGRAM FOR
YOU!"

"...
TELEGRAM?"

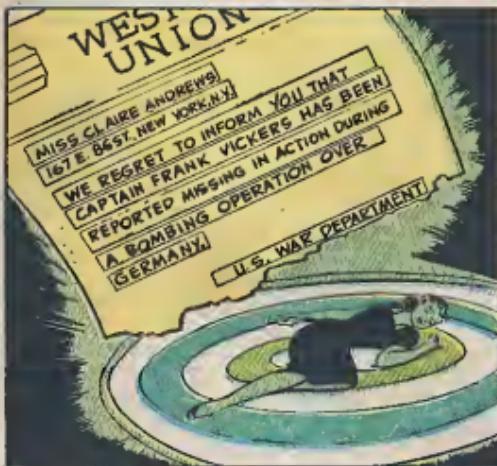


WEST UNION

MISS CLAIRE ANDREWS,
167 E. 65ST. NEW YORK, N.Y.

WE REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT
CAPTAIN FRANK VICKERS HAS BEEN
REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION DURING
A BOMBING OPERATION OVER
GERMANY.

U.S. WAR DEPARTMENT



"AND THAT WAS THAT, READER! A DREAM FINISHED FOREVER--A SHATTERED HEART! LEFT TO ME ONLY AN EMPTY LIFE--AND THE ASHES OF A DEAD LOVE!"

I'VE GOT TO PULL
MYSELF TOGETHER!
I'VE GOT TO GO ON
--BUT FOR
WHAT?



"HAPPY, CAREFREE TIMES WERE A MOCKERY, A RELIC OF THE VANISHED PAST! SO WERE MEN, FOR MY HEART CRIED OUT FOR JUST ONE WHO COULD NEVER COME AGAIN!"

...BUT CLAIRE, WHY NOT COME ALONG? JOE'S FRIEND IS TERRIBLY NICE! I'M SURE YOU...

PLEASE, MARY, I CAN'T!
I--I'M NOT INTERESTED IN MEN ANYMORE!



"THAT'S HOW THINGS WERE WHEN I WAS TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER DEPARTMENT! BY THIS TIME I'D LET MYSELF GO, CARED LITTLE FOR MY APPEARANCE; I SCARCELY EVEN RESEMBLED THE GIRL I'D BEEN--AND I COULD TELL THAT DAN MATTHEWS, MY NEW BOSS, DIDN'T THINK MUCH OF ME!"

JUST MY LUCK, INHERITING
A DRIPPY OLD MAID FOR A
SECRETARY! GOSH, AND I
WAS HOPING FOR A
GLAMOR-GAL...



"I KNEW WHAT HE THOUGHT I WAS---BUT I DIDN'T CARE MUCH UNTIL ONE NIGHT---"



I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T MIND WORKING OVERTIME, MISS ANDREWS! AFTER ALL, IT ISN'T AS IF YOU EVER HAD ANYTHING ELSE TO DO! OH...

"I RESTRAINED MY TEARS UNTIL AFTER HE LEFT! THEN..."



IS---IS THIS WHAT I'VE BECOME---JUST A PIECE OF OFFICE FURNITURE?

"THEN, SUDDENLY---" MISS ANDREWS, I---I'M SORRY! I SAW THE HURT IN YOUR EYES---I HAD TO COME BACK TO APOLOGIZE!

DON'T---DON'T LET IT TROUBLE YOU, MR. MATTHEWS! WHO EVER HEARD OF AN OLD MAID HAVING FEELINGS?

"HE INSISTED ON TAKING ME HOME---AND MORE TO GET RID OF HIM THAN ANYTHING ELSE, I CONSENTED! WHEN WE ARRIVED---"

HMM---AN ARMY MAN, EH? WHO IS HE---YOUR BROTHER?

NO, HE'S---HE WAS MY FIANCÉ! IT MAY BE HARD TO BELIEVE, BUT SOMEONE DID LOVE ME ONCE!



FORGIVE ME---GUESS I KEEP PUTTING MY POOT INTO IT, DON'T I? BUT SAY, THIS GIRL---SHE'S GORGEOUS! WHO'S SHE?

WHY, THAT'S---THAT'S---MY SISTER---

OH---YOUR SISTER, EH? UH-HUH---

OH, WHY HAVEN'T I GOT THE COURAGE TO TELL HIM THE TRUTH---THAT THAT WAS ME---AND THIS IS WHAT I'VE LET MYSELF COME TO!



"EARLY AND HEARTBREAKING, THE
LOVELY DAYS PASSED! I TRIED TO
BURY MYSELF IN MY WORK - BUT
SOMETIMES, I'D BECOME AWARE OF
DAN MATTHEWS LOOKING AT ME
STRANGELY! BUT EVER PRESENT
WERE MY THOUGHTS OF FRANK,
CROWDING HIM FROM MY MIND!
THEN - ONE FOGGY SATURDAY
MORNING IN AUGUST - IN MY
OFFICE IN THE EMPIRE STATE
BUILDING ..."



"LOUDER... IN A MIGHTY ROAR,
I DIDN'T KNOW THEN THAT IT WASN'T
MY IMAGINATION - BUT HORRIBLE
REALITY! FOR AT THAT VERY MOMENT,
CUTTING THROUGH THE SHROUDING
MISTS OUTSIDE MY WINDOW...
FLYING BLIND..."

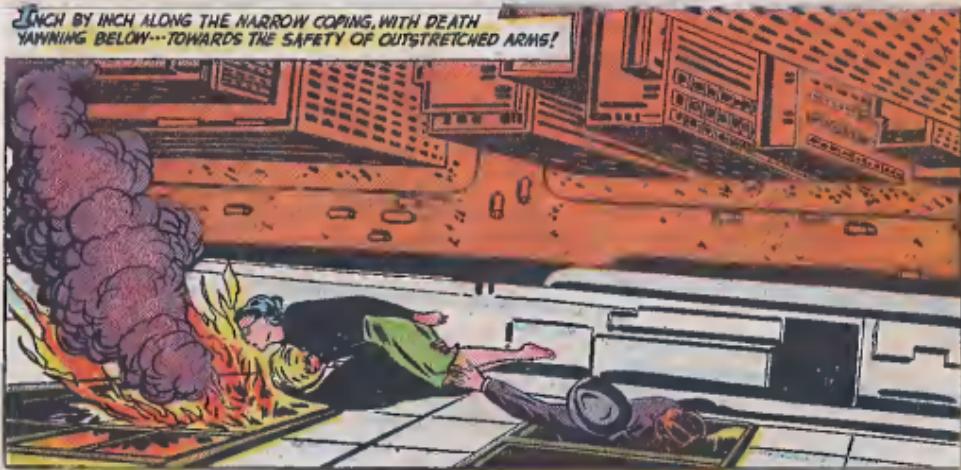


SHE'S...STILL BREATHING
...BUT WE'RE TRAPPED!
THE WINDOWS OUR ONLY
CHANCE...BUT IT'S A
DESPERATE ONE!

A DESPERATE CHANCE...FAR ABOVE
THE TEEMING CITY...



INCH BY INCH ALONG THE NARROW COPING, WITH DEATH
YAWNING BELOW...TOWARDS THE SAFETY OF OUTSTRETCHED ARMS!



A WEEK LATER...METROPOLITAN HOSPITAL...

WELL, MISS...IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOUR EYES OPEN AT LAST! YOU'VE BEEN IN A COMA, BUT YOU'RE ALL RIGHT NOW... COMPLETELY OUT OF DANGER!

MY...
FACE! IT ISN'T...
SCARRED?

THERE'S THE MIRROR! SEE FOR YOURSELF!

BUT I'M...I'M LIKE I USED TO BE...PRETTY AGAIN! WHAT HAPPENED? HOW DID...



DAN MATTHEWS...AT YOUR SERVICE! YOU SEE, AS SOON AS WE KNEW YOU WERE OKAY, I HAD YOU FIXED UP! I WANTED YOU TO COME TO AS THE BEAUTIFUL GIRL YOU REALLY WERE... AND SHOULD HAVE BEEN ALL ALONG!

THEN... THEN YOU KNEW?



YES, CLAIRE...EVER SINCE THAT NIGHT I BROUGHT YOU HOME! I SAW YOUR FACE WHEN YOU SAID THAT THAT WAS YOUR SISTER'S PICTURE... AND YOU DIDN'T FOOL ME ONE BIT! YOU'VE GOT A LOT TO MAKE UP TO YOURSELF, AND PLEASE, LADY...CAN I BE AROUND TO HELP?



WELL...I COULDN'T REFUSE THE MAN WHO SAID MY LIFE PASSED SO THROUGH THE SLOW DAYS OF CONVALESCENCE, THERE WAS MAN... ALWAYS DAN...



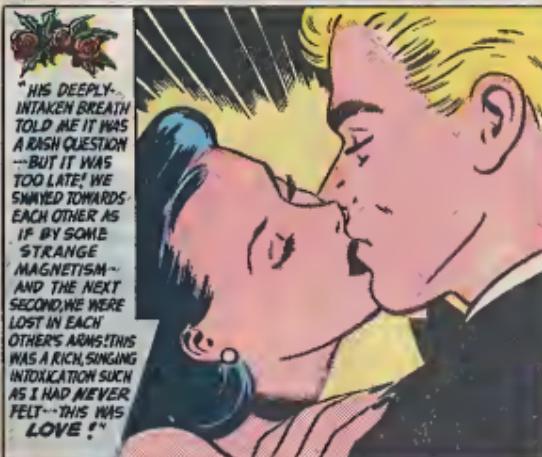
'ALWAYS DAN...AND A GROWING INTIMACY BROUGHT US CLOSE TOGETHER! BUT I HADN'T REALIZED HOW CLOSE...UNTIL THAT BITTER-SWEET NIGHT...'

DAN... THAT'S ALMOST POETRY! TELL ME...DO YOU SEE ANYTHING ELSE?

WHAT A MOON...EH, CLAIRE? I CAN SEE IT IN YOUR EYES... AND THERE ARE A THOUSAND STARS DANCING THERE!



"HIS DEEPLY-INHALED BREATH TOLD ME IT WAS A RASH QUESTION...BUT IT WAS TOO LATE! WE SWAYED TOWARDS EACH OTHER AS IF BY SOME STRANGE MAGNETISM...AND THE NEXT SECOND, WE WERE LOST IN EACH OTHER'S ARMS! THIS WAS A RICH, SINGING INTOXICATION SUCH AS I HAD NEVER FELT--THIS WAS LOVE!"



LIPS PRESSSED UPON MINE--THE STRENGTH OF A MAN'S EMBRACE--AND SUDDENLY IT HAPPENED! A TORMENT OF MEMORIES EN-GULFED ME--OF OTHER LIPS, OTHER ARMS! I HEARD MY OWN VOICE, AND IT TOLD FRANK, 'I PROMISE TO WAIT FOR YOU FOREVER!'"



I'M...SORRY, BUT
THIS...CAN'T BE!
THERE'S TOO MUCH
THAT'S...GONE
BEFORE...

I THINK I UNDERSTAND, CLAIRE! A
SHADOW HAS COME BETWEEN US,
KEEPING US APART! IT'S THE
SHADOW OF A **DEAD MAN**...
FRANK VICKERS!

OH DARLING, DARLING...YOU'VE GOT TO FACE LIFE
AND BURY THE PAST! YOU CAN'T LIVE WITH JUST
MEMORIES...HE WOULDN'T WANT IT THAT WAY!
HE'D WANT YOU TO SEEK THE HAPPINESS YOU DE-
SERVE...THE NEW LIFE THAT'S WAITING FOR YOU!
AND IF YOU CAN FIND ANY LOVE FOR ME IN YOUR
HEART...I WON'T TAKE NO FOR AN ANSWER!

THE MISTS OF
OLD PAIN AND
GRIEF SEEMED TO
VANISH BEFORE
DAN'S KINDNESS AND
UNDERSTANDING
... AND SUDDENLY
THE FUTURE
SEEMED TO DAWN
CLEAR AND BRIGHT
BEFORE ME!
YESTERDAY DAMMED
WITHIN HIS
EMBRACE...AND A
GLAD TOMORROW
WAITED!

DAN, DEAREST...YOU'VE SHOWN ME
THE WAY! I KNOW THAT I LOVE
YOU...AND THAT THE PAST IS BE-
HIND ME FOREVER! I'M YOURS
FOR ALWAYS...AND
NOTHING CAN CHANGE
THAT!

DAN'S...FOR ALWAYS!
WE SET OUR MARRIAGE
DATE FOR A MONTH...
HENCE...AND NEVER
HAD I BEEN SO DE-
LIRIOUSLY HAPPY! WITH
THE FLEETING WEEKS, I
FOUND FRANK BECOMING
A DIM, SWEET MEMORY...
ALMOST TOO QUICKLY!
PERHAPS MY CONSCIENCE WAS
BOthering ME...PERHAPS...
THAT'S WHY I NOW MADE A
STRANGE REQUEST...

I--I KNOW WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING FOR THOSE
SOLDIERS WHO ARE...GONE--BUT HOW ABOUT
THE WOUNDED...LYING IN HOSPITALS AND WAIT-
ING FOR A FRIENDLY HAND? PLEASE, DAN, LET ME
KEEP THEM ALIVE IN MY HEART AS A MONUMENT
TO FRANK!

THAT'S A SWELL THOUGHT--FROM
A SWELL GIRL! WE'LL GO TO
VETERANS' HOSPITALS, BRING THINGS
LIKE CIGARETTES AND BOOKS...
I'M ALL FOR IT!

IT WAS AT THE FOURTH HOSPITAL WE VISITED...

HEY DON'T GIVE THEM ALL AWAY, CLAIRE!
LET'S SAVE A FEW PRESENTS FOR
THE WARDS!



THAT MAN... THE ONE IN THE WHEEL CHAIR... WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM, DOCTOR? HE DOESN'T SEEM VERY INTERESTED IN US!

HE'S A SAD CASE, MISS ANDREWS... AMNESIA! HE'LL RECOVER PHYSICALLY, ALL RIGHT, BUT AS FAR AS HIS PAST IS CONCERNED, HIS MIND'S A BLANK.



HOW... TRAGIC! BUT ISN'T THERE SOME WAY TO TRACE HIS IDENTITY? DOGTAGS... FINGERPRINTS...?

I'M AFRAID NOT... SINCE BOTH WERE BLOWN OFF WHEN HE WAS FOUND! HE'S DOOMED ALWAYS TO REMAIN AN UNKNOWN SOLDIER... UNLESS SOMETHING FROM HIS PRE-WAR DAYS RECALLS HIS PAST TO HIM! HE'S BEEN BROODING LATELY... PERHAPS YOU COULD CHEER HIM UP!



HELLO, THERE! HOW ARE WE DO...

HOW... N-NO, NO! IT... IT CAN'T BE!



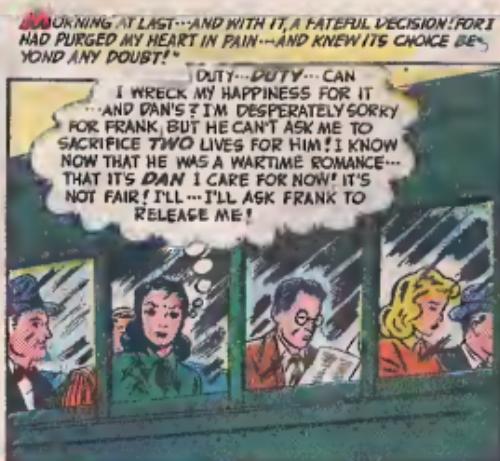
YOUR FACE... YOUR VOICE... IT'S LIKE OPENING... A WINDOW IN MY MIND! SOMEWHERE, SOMETIME... I KNEW YOU!



CLAIRE... CLAIRE... IT'S YOU! I REMEMBER NOW! I REMEMBER!

FRANK VICKERS... ALIVE AND CLAIRE'S TOO FAITHFUL TO...







NEXT DAY... AT CITY HALL--"

FRANK'S OVER AN HOUR LATE! I
WONDER WHAT'S KEEPING HIM?
I--I WANT TO GET
THIS **OVER**
WITH!

HEY, LADY!
--YOUR NAME
CLAIRE
ANDREWS?

THAT'S RIGHT!
WHY, WHAT--

DUNNO, MISS--SOME SOLDIER
GAVE ME IT! I SAID TO GIVE IT
TO YOU!



A PICTURE...
AND A LETTER!
WHAT CAN THIS
BE ABOUT?



READ--AND THE WORDS SWAM BEFORE
MY UNBELIEVING EYES!"

Clare:

I guess I'm not the steady,
reliable guy you thought. I didn't
have enough nerve to tell you about
that "something else" I remembered
back at the hospital. It wasn't
a war experience... it was
Dotty! We fell for each other in
Paris and got married on the
spur of the moment.

"...I CRASHED BEFORE I COULD WRITE YOU ABOUT IT...AND WHEN I FINALLY REMEMBERED, I COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO TELL YOU...SO I'M OFF TO LET DOTTY KNOW I'M ALIVE. FORGIVE ME--I KNOW YOU LOVED ME! --FRANK"

FORGIVE HIM
---HE KNOWS I
LOVED HIM!--
BRO-THER!
I ALMOST DO
FOR THAT!
ZOWIE...
WHERE'S A
TELEPHONE?

"SORRY, BUT MR. MATTHEWS LEFT TOWN AN HOUR AGO
ON THE CHICAGO LIMITED! HE HEARD YOU WERE GETTING
MARRIED TODAY AND SAID HE DIDN'T WANT TO STAY
AROUND!"

"HMM... AN HOUR AGO,
EH? WELL, I KNOW WHERE I
CAN BORROW A CAR... A FAST
ONE!"

"HOURS LATER...AS THE CHICAGO LIMITED
THUNDERED WESTWARD..."

"ON, I SUPPOSE I CAN'T
BLAME HER, THE SELF-SACRIFICING
LITTLE IDIOT, BUT---HEY!
WHAT'S THAT LUNATIC TRYING
TO DO---COMMIT
SUICIDE?"

"BUT AS THE "LUNATIC" SWERVES CLOSER... NEVER MIND NOW,
YOU DARLING DOPE!"

"CLAIRE!
BUT WHAT---
HOW..."

BETTER FRESHEN UP...
BECAUSE I'M JOINING
YOU AT THE
NEXT STOP!"

"AND NEXT STOP--"

"HONEY--HONEY--I--
I JUST DON'T UNDER-
STAND--MONT SOM-
BODY TELL ME
SOMETHING?"

LET'S GAVE EXPLANATIONS
FOR LATER! FOR NOW,
JUST HOLD ME
TIGHT, SWEETHEART
---AND NEVER LET
ME GO!"

YESIR! THIRTY YEARS ON THIS
RAILROAD---AND I STILL THINK
I'VE GOT THE BEST JOB IN
THE COUNTRY!"

THE END

ALL MY LIFE I'D
KNOWN POVERTY -- THE
PRIVATION OF HAND-ME-DOWNS!
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT ONE PRECIOUS
ASSET WAS MINE -- THAT WITHIN
MY BEATING HEART LAY
ALL THE SHINING
WEALTH OF A ---

Rich Little Poor Girl



I CAN NEVER REMEMBER
HAVING ANYTHING THAT WAS
TRULY MINE! CLOTHES? THEY
CAME RIGHT OFF COUSIN PAMELA'S
BACK -- WHEN SHE WAS THROUGH
WITH THEM! AND HOW SHE
GLORIED IN IT! *

"THROUGHOUT MY SCHOOL YEARS,
IT WAS THE SAME STORY --
PAMELA THROWING UP MY POVERTY
WHENEVER SHE HAD THE CHANCE!"

"IT WAS IN THAT MOMENT OF
GRIEF AND HURT PRIDE THAT
BILL GREGG FIRST CAME
INTO MY UNHAPPY LIFE!"

NOW THANK
PAMELA FOR
THE LOVELY
DRESS,
DEAR!

THAT'S ALL RIGHT!
I CAN SEE HOW
HAPPY SHE IS!

WHAT'S YOUR
HURRY, AMY? ARE
YOU SURE YOU
WOULDN'T WANT
A SODA? AFTER
ALL -- I'M
BUYING!

HAW-HAW!
THAT'S TELLING
HER!

I SAW WHAT HAPPENED,
KID! CHEER UP -- DOPES
LIKE THOSE AREN'T
WORTH CRYING
ABOUT!

OH -- IT'S
NICE OF YOU
TO --



"IT WAS THE FIRST OF MANY GLOW MEETINGS! WITH BILL, MY HEART SEEMED TO BLOOM AGAIN--AND PAMELA LOST HER CRUEL MEANING--"

THAT LITTLE MINX--
AND THE BEST-
LOOKING BOY IN
SCHOOL! NOWD
SHE EVER
MANAGE
TO LAND
HIM?

THEN IT'S A
DATE FOR THE
SENIOR PROM,
AMY?

I'LL SAY! I CAN
HARDLY WAIT!

"THE SENIOR
PROM--AND
A BOY LIKE
THAT! IT WAS
ECSTACY!
I WANTED
TO LOOK MY
BEST--I
HAD TO!"

PLEASE--
LET ME BUY
A PARTY
DRESS JUST
THIS ONCE!

NO! YOUR MOTHER'S
FIKIN' OVER AN OLD ONE
OF PAMELA'S--THAT'LL
BE GOOD
ENOUGH!



"AND SO ONCE
AGAIN IT WAS A
HAND-ME-DOWN!
BUT IT DIDN'T
SEEM TO
MATTER AS
I FLOATED
IN BILL'S
STRONG
ARMS--"

WHO'S MY
SWEETHEART--
SWEETHEART?

I--I
HOPE IT'S
ME!

Carter
High
SENIOR PROM



"BUT THEN--SUDDENLY--"

I'M SURPRISED
AT YOU, AMY--
WE CAN FIX THAT,
SOON ENOUGH!
NOT LETTING YOUR
COUSIN PAMELA
HAVE A SINGLE
DANCE WITH YOUR
NICE ESCORT!



"I COULD SEE IT HAPPENING--
PAMELA TURNING ON HER CHARM--
BILL ENTRANCED! MUST SHE
HAVE EVERYTHING--AND
I, NOTHING?"

OH, DARLING,
DARLING--DON'T
LET HER TAKE
YOU AWAY
FROM ME!
PLEASE!

"BUT MY COUSIN HAD WON HER
ENTERING WEDGE--AND MADE SURE
TO MONOPOLIZE MUCH OF HIS TIME.
AS THE DAYS PASSED, I WAS I LOSING
HIM? BUT THEN CAME GRADUATION,
AND THOUGHTS OF THE FUTURE!
PERHAPS FOR ONCE MY WEALTHY
AUNT COULD REALLY HELP ME!!

DRAMATIC SCHOOL! I CAN'T
AFFORD TO SEND BOTH YOU AND
PAMELA THERE--BUT I HAVE
MANAGED TO LAND YOU A
THEATRICAL POSITION!



"YOU'LL SORT OF--ER--GET IN ON
THE GROUND FLOOR--AS AN
USHERETTE AT THE BIJOU!--
YOU KNOW, DEAR, MANY
FAMOUS ACTRESSES
STARTED THAT
WAY!"

YES, I--I
KNOW! THANK
YOU, AUNTIE--

"ONCE AGAIN, PAMELA HAD
BEATEN ME! SHE'D LEARN THE
THINGS I DREAMED OF, WHILE
I--I'D GUIDE PEOPLE
TO THEIR SEATS!"

"SO I DOWNED MY DREAMS OF DRAMATICS! STANDING ON YOUR FEET ALL EVENING CAN BE TIRING -- BUT I COULD STILL THINK OF BILL, EVEN IF WORKING NIGHTS PREVENTED ME FROM EVER SEEING HIM!"



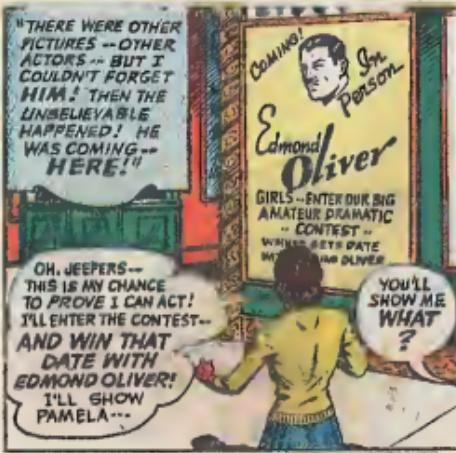
"I DID GET TO WATCH THE PICTURES! AND I WAS STRANGELY THRILLED BY EDMOND OLIVER, THE NEW SCREEN SENSATION, WHOSE LATEST PICTURE WAS HELD OVER FOR WEEKS AT THE BIJOU."



"TODAY AFTER DAY, HE GATED FROM THE SILVER SCREEN, SEEMING TO TALK TO ME -- AND BEFORE HIS GLAMOR, POOR PLAIN BILL SEEMED TO RETREAT INTO THE SHADY PAST!"



"THERE WERE OTHER PICTURES -- OTHER ACTORS -- BUT I COULDN'T FORGET HIM! THEN THE UNBELIEVABLE HAPPENED! HE WAS COMING -- HERE!"



COMING!
See PERSON

Edmond Oliver

GIRLS -- ENTER OUR BIG AMATEUR DRAMATIC CONTEST -- WINNER GETS DATE WITH EDMOND OLIVER.

YOU'LL SHOW ME WHAT?

"WELL! MY MIDYEAR VACATION FROM DRAMATIC SCHOOL CAME JUST IN TIME -- IN TIME TO PROVE THAT MY TRAINING WILL WIN THAT CONTEST!"

"YOU'RE WRONG THIS TIME, PAMELA! I'VE GOT MY HEART SET ON COMING IN FIRST -- AND I'LL DO IT!"



"I REHEARSED IN SECRET, DETERMINED TO WIN! FINALLY CAME THE NIGHT OF THE CONTEST! HEART THUDING MADLY, I RUSHED TOWARDS THE THEATRE -- BUT RIGHT OUTSIDE --"



I'M -- SORRY, ANY, BUT IT'S PAMELA I'M GOING TO BE CHEERING FOR!

"ANOTHER VICTORY FOR PAMELA! HIS WORDS STUNNED ME -- BUT THERE WAS WORSE TO COME!"

WE -- WE'VE BEEN DRIFTING APART! PERHAPS IT'S BEST THAT WAY, ANY -- BEST THAT WE DON'T SEE EACH OTHER ANYMORE!

"YOU'VE -- FALLEN IN LOVE WITH HER, I DON'T BOTHER DENYING IT -- THIS IS GOODBYE!"



"THE CONTEST WAS ON--AND EVEN THROUGH MY BITTER TEARS, I COULD SEE THAT PAMELA WAS SENSATIONAL! WHAT DID IT MATTER, NOW THAT BILL WAS GONE?"



"I KNEW I HAD TO GO THROUGH WITH IT--HAD TO SING THROUGH A THROAT CHOKED WITH SOBS! IT WAS NO USE--"





*AND NOW
HELEN RALLIED
AROUND!
A SKILLED
HAIRDRESSER,
SHE WORKED
WONDERS
WITH MY
APPEARANCE--
AND
PAMELA'S
BEST AND
NEWEST
GOWN
DIDN'T
HURT,
EITHER!"



"EDMOND OLIVER! HANDSOME,
THRILLING, ROMANTIC, HE HELPED
ME TO FORGET THE HURT THAT
BILL HAD DEALT ME!"

TRUTHFULLY, MY DEAR, I'D BEEN
EXPECTING SOME FEMALE HORROR--
AND INSTEAD I FIND A VISION OF
LOVELINESS! WHY, I -- SAY,
WHAT'S THAT
NOISE?

YES--I'M PAMELA
GRANT! SHALL
WE--LEAVE
NOW?

BUT WHY
THE GREAT
HURRY,
MISS GRANT?

THUMP!

IT'S--JUST THE
PLUMBING! ER--
SOME LEAKY DRIP
IS BEING FIXED
UPSTAIRS!
LET'S GO,
HUM?

YOU'RE SO
DIFFERENT--SO
GORGEOUS!
AND YOUR HAND
--IT'S SO
SOFT...

PLEASE,
MR. OLIVER--
EDMOND--
YOU MUSTN'T
SAY THINGS
LIKE THAT!



"IT WAS BILL! I'D HEARD HE'D GOTTEN A
JOB AS MUSICIAN, BUT NEVER DREAMED IT
WAS HERE! HE'D TOLD ME WE WERE
THROUGH -- WELL, I'D SHOW HIM THAT
SOMEONE ELSE FOUND ME DESIRABLE!"



YOU'RE -- IRRESISTIBLE,
SWEET! AND THOSE
LIPS -- SO
KISSABLE!

THEN -- WHAT ARE
YOU -- WAITING
FOR?



"THEN -- IT HAPPENED!"

BOY, THESE
NIGHT CLUBS
ARE ALWAYS
GOOD FOR A
JUICY PICTURE
AND EDMOND
OLIVER --
WOW!



THAT SETTLES THIS
RUBE! LET'S LEAVE
AND GO SOMEPLACE
WHERE WE CAN BE
ALONE!

NO! I
WON'T!



SO ALL OF A
SUDDEN, YOU
DON'T LIKE MY
COMPANY? TURNING
GOODY-GOOD,
EH?

SO HERE YOU
ARE -- YOU
TREACHEROUS
LITTLE
SNIP!



"IT WAS PAMELA -- AND MY SHAME WAS COMPLETE!"

TRIED TO DO ME OUT OF THE
DATE I'D WON, DIDN'T
YOU -- YOU
IMPOSTOR!

PAMELA -- PLEASE!
NOT HERE, IN FRONT
OF EDMOND!



SHE STRUCK LIKE A WILDCAT! AND EDMOND,
WHO HAD SPOKEN SUCH TENDER WORDS TO
ME -- DID NOTHING! INSTEAD, HE LOOKED ON,
SMILING CYNICALLY, AS -- "

TAKE THAT! IT'S MY OWN DRESS --
THE ONE YOU STOLE -- BUT IT'S
WORTH IT!

OH, NO!
DON'T--



SAY--YOU'RE QUITE A SPITFIRE, AREN'T YOU? IMAGINE ME-- BEING TAKEN IN BY A LITTLE MISS PRIM LIKE THAT! BUT YOU COULD STILL SAVE MY EVENING, MISS--

CALL ME PAMELA-- AND IT'LL BE A PLEASURE!

"BURNING WITH SHAME, I WATCHED THEM-- SAW A BOTTLE BEING PASSED! WAS THIS PAMELA'S IDEA OF PLEASURE?"

"THERE WERE OTHERS WHO SAW THEM, TOO-- BUT THEY DIDN'T SEEM TO CARE!"



HUH? LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, PAMELA! THESE FOOLS SEEM TO INSIST ON INTRUDING ON OUR PRIVACY!



"I WAS ASHAMED OF ALL THIS-- ASHAMED OF THE PART I HAD PLAYED! THROUGH MY SOBS CAME A VOICE--"



PAMELA-- ALWAYS PAMELA! IF YOU LOVE HER SO MUCH, WHY DID YOU INTERFERE WHEN EDMOND KISSED ME? ANSWER ME THAT!



"NEXT MOMENT -- DISASTER!"

HELP!

S-SAVE
ME!

ME, TOO!...
I--I CAN'T
SWIM!

I'M RIGHT
BEHIND YOU,
BILL!

THUD!

OH-HHH! DON'T
LET ME -- DROWN!

HMM! VERY
INTERESTING -- HOW
FAST YOU JUMPED IN
TO SAVE YOUR
BIG MOMENT!

I NOTICE
YOU DIDN'T
LOSE ANY TIME
GOING AFTER YOUR
HEART'S DESIRE!
-- AND IF I NEVER
SEE YOU AGAIN,
BILL GREGG,
IT'LL BE
TOO SOON!

"NEXT DAY, THE
STORM BROKE."

-- AND HE WAS SEEN
NECKING IN HIS CAR
WITH SOME GIRL LATER
-- DRINKING, TOO!

SOME GIRL?
YOU MEAN
AMY GRANT!

SO THIS IS HOW YOU REPAY ME FOR ALL
I'VE DONE FOR YA! -- GALLIVANTIN'
AROUND IN DEN
OF SIN --
DRINKIN' --

BUT--BUT IT
ISN'T SO!
I --

AMY GRANT, LOCAL GIRL
IN NIGHT CLUB BRA
WITH MOVIE STAR

-- AND THEY WERE SO
LIT THEY DROVE RIGHT
OFF AN OPEN BRIDGE!

PAMELA SAYS IF SHE
HADN'T BEEN HANDY,
AMY WOULD HAVE
DROWNED!

SHE
DESERVES
TO HAVE
DROWNED!

THE SHAME
OF IT ALL!

SO! I'VE
FOUND YOU
AT LAST!



"I RUSHED OUT -- BUT HE WAS
ALREADY GONE! INSTEAD --"

AMY! HI! IT'S ME--
EDMOND OLIVER!



I--I DON'T KNOW IF
YOU CAN EVER FIND IT
IN YOUR HEART TO FORGIVE
ME -- BUT I WAS A
RAT! AND THE WAY
YOU SAVED
MY LIFE --

YOU CAN PAY ME
BACK -- BY SAVING
MY LIFE! MOVE
OVER -- AND HIT
THE HIGHWAY
TO NEW YORK,
FAST!

THAT'S HIM -- THAT CAR
UP AHEAD! STEP ON IT--
AND FORCE HIM TO THE
SIDE OF THE ROAD!

WELL, WHAT A CHARMING
COUPLE -- HAD TO CATCH UP TO
GLOAT OVER ME, EH? OKAY -- BUT
AFTER LAST NIGHT, I'VE GOT A DEBT
TO SETTLE WITH YOU, OLIVER--
AND IT'S COMING NOW!



DARLING, DARLING -- DON'T YOU KNOW
THAT WAY DOWN UNDERNEATH, IT'S ALWAYS
BEEN **YOU** THAT I LOVED? IT WAS PAMELA'S
LIES THAT CAME BETWEEN US -- AND LATER,
I SUPPOSE I **DID** TRY TO MAKE YOU
JEALOUS -- BUT IF YOU'LL
HAVE ME **NOW** --



IF I'LL HAVE YOU!
SWEETHEART, I'LL
LOVE YOU--ALWAYS--

JUST MY BILL -- AND
THAT'S ALL I'LL
EVER WANT!



"And that's my
story, reader! The
poor relative -- the girl
whod always worn
hand-me-downs!
But when it came to
something that REALLY
counted -- **TRUE LOVE**--
well, I guess I was
just a **RICH** little
poor girl!"

PILOT TO PASSENGER: *I LOVE YOU!*

ALICIA CURTIS had the kind of looks that add up to romance . . . a trim figure, delightfully curved and tapered, a soft, full, well-shaped mouth, a cascade of silky auburn hair, and the most enormous, appealing gray-green eyes in the world!

All through college, she was rushed for dates. Everyone wanted to go out with Alicia, everyone from the most serious student in the mathematics major to the light-hearted Lothario who captained the football team.

No, Alicia never lacked for dates. She was offered enough romance and proposals of marriage to keep hundreds of girls happy. But Alicia Curtis had other plans.

Often, in the midnight dorm-dish sessions, when the pyjama-clad seniors would curl up and discuss their dates, Alicia would say: "Uh-uh! Not for me! I'm not saying 'yes' to the first male who waves a diamond ring at me. I've got *plans* . . . *standards*!"

That wasn't just talk, either. In her mind, Alicia carried an invisible, but definite, set of standards, a sort of test for every man she met. Was he good-looking? Tall enough? The right age? Did he have enough brain-power to make him intelligent, but enough gaiety to make him good company? What were his financial prospects? Sense of humor? Taste in clothes?

Every man she met was subjected to the test and if he didn't pass . . . one date, two dates and out! This feminine creature who looked so lovable, had an application form where her heart should be!

After graduation, Alicia fluffed out her auburn curls, tilted a small, pale blue hat over her eyes and went job-hunting. It took her exactly two days to find and land the job she wanted. It had glamor, opportunity and excitement and provided her with a small, blonde mahogany desk

between the offices of two of the best-looking junior vice-presidents in town! As secretary to Berry Raymond and Laurence James, Alicia had hit the jackpot in more ways than one.

Her mind was busy as she totalled the assets . . . an elegant advertising agency, a good job, and two eligible bachelors whose eyes lit up in appreciation every time she walked by.

It wasn't long before a triangle developed. Berry Raymond, tall, fair, attentive, brought flowers for Alicia's desk, dropped well-turned compliments into her ear, sighed after her longingly. Laurence James, tall, dark, wistful, had cold drinks sent to her desk, wrote bits of light love poetry, flashed an occasional smile of affection at her.

All this time, Alicia was busy applying her test . . . her set of high standards. And Berry was, by far the winner! He had managed to let her know, in so many subtle ways, what a great guy he was. He met the specifications, all right!

As for Laurence James, Alicia could see no future with him . . . he was too easy-going, too quiet and remote. He didn't seem capable of doing the daring, wonderful things that Berry talked about, of achieving the heights that Berry would. And yet . . . and yet . . . there was something about Laurence James that made Alicia day-dream, wander off into soft moods, feel warm and cozy all over.

"This won't do at all!" she told herself sharply. "You know Berry's the man for you . . . don't let this go on! Give Mr. James the slow, gentle kind of brush-off you do so well. Don't spoil the future . . ."

Which was precisely what Alicia did. Feeling ashamed of her softer emotions where Laurence James was concerned, she assumed a cold and indifferent manner towards him, ignored his advances, smiled at him rarely.

And, as he caught the idea, and began to drift away, a chill seemed to settle down in the offices, to settle in Alicia's heart as well. Berry and Laurence began to avoid each other, for Berry was the victor. Every time Alicia would turn and catch a glimpse of Laurence's tousled dark hair, something would catch in her throat.

"But that's silly," she reminded herself. "A girl's crazy to let her feelings run her life!" And she would smile all the more, cause her gray-green eyes to sparkle more brilliantly, when Berry came around.

Perhaps, Alicia would have tried to make peace between the two men, had she had time. But the triangle was becoming sharper and sharper, when the Ace Flying account intervened. One of their best accounts, Berry had gotten it by delighting the heart of the president of the Ace Aviation Company.

"I fly my own little Ace, sir," he had said. "Sure is a super job you people put out! I'll be able to handle your account with that *personal touch!*"

The president of Ace had grinned, pumped Berry's hand warmly and said, "The account's yours, son. Just be at our convention in Cleveland a week from today . . . and come *flying* in! We like all our people to use Aces for all traveling!"

And so, Berry, Alicia and Laurence planned to fly out to Cleveland. Laurence had not wanted to fly. "Train's safer and just as good," he had said shortly, when the three were making their plans.

Berry had looked at him, a slightly contemptuous curl on his lips. "Scared?" he asked.

The little plane took off shortly after dawn on a clear, crisp morning. Berry, at the controls, looked even more dashing than ever. Alicia, if she needed any reassurance, had it, as she admired Berry's clean-cut profile and competent hands. And then, fear clutched at her heart as the sky turned a lowering gray and a wall of black clouds seemed to rush at the little plane.

"Berry . . . Berry . . ." she started to

say. Her eyes widened. The fear grew deeper, more intense. For the plane, caught in a raging storm, was out of control!

"Take her down! Take her down, man!" Laurence James' voice broke the unearthly silence. "You've got too much weather to fight. *Take her down!*"

There was no understanding in Berry's face. His knuckles showed white as his hands froze on the stick, rendered motionless, powerless by fear. "He . . . he can't move!" Alicia shuddered.

"Then get off the controls! *I'll* take over!" Alicia's heart thudded as Laurence balanced himself towarda Berry. "Get away from there!"

Berry did not move.

"Sorry, old man!" Laurence whispered, as his fist shot out, connecting sharply with Berry's jaw. "This will keep you out of mischief while I try to bring us down in one piece!"

Alicia wept, silently, bitterly, as Laurence James' strong, competent hands took over the controls. Zooming under the lowering cloud bank, the little Ace moved on serenely, gliding down, down, down to an easy landing.

"Laurence . . . Larry . . ." Alicia wanted to tell him something, something so important that her heart seemed to swell with it. "I'm sorry . . . you see, I thought . . . I . . ."

"I know what you thought!" he said coldly. "You thought you could add up the assets, figure out the profits, and get in on the best deal! But sometimes, your addition can be *wrong!*"

Hearstricken, feeling lost and unwanted, Alicia turned to climb out of the plane. She didn't want Berry any more. Berry was a coward. And as for Larry, he had read her like a book . . . and scorned her as she had thought she scorned him.

Blindly, she started to leave, when a hand gripped her shoulder. "Luckily, I can add, too!" Larry said, his lips very close to hers. "And I know what I want, too!" His lips came closer. "And I want you, darling!"

DANCE *of* ROMANCE

DANCING WAS
ALWAYS IN MY BLOOD
---AND THE RHYTHM
OF MUSIC SET MY HEART
TO THROBBING! BUT
WHEN I FINALLY MET
THE ONE MAN WHOSE
LIFE-PARTNER I YEARNED
TO BE --- WHOSE ARMS
I WANTED AROUND
ME ALWAYS--- I
LEARNED THAT
BITTER ANGUISH
AND TORMENT
COULD LURK BE-
HIND THE MUSIC OF A

**DANCE
of
ROMANCE!**



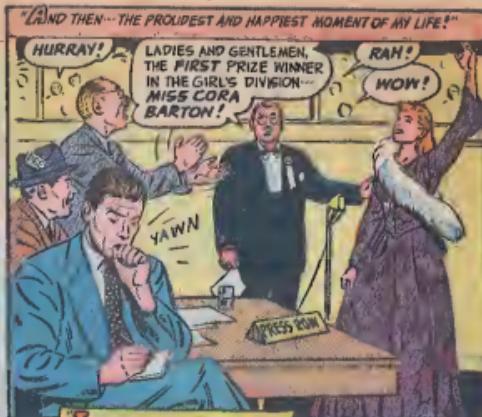
HISTORY TELLS US OUR FOREFATHERS
DANCED LIKE THIS...



BUT FASHIONS CHANGE, AND IT WAS AT LUKE-BOK JIVE-
SESSIONS LIKE THIS ONE THAT I LEARNED TO LOVE
DANCING!"



"MY STORY BEGINS AT THE HARVEST JAZZ FESTIVAL AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN. I WAS A THRILL AT MY FIRST BIGTIME DANCE CONTEST--FERVENTLY NOTING FOR ONE OF THE CONSOLATION PRIZES!"





"LINE OLD BLAZING ANGER AT HIS SNOBISHNESS SURGED BACK, AND I WALKED OUT ON HIM! BUT HE CAUGHT UP WITH ME OUTSIDE..."

"YOU NEEDN'T BOTHER TO TAKE ME HOME, MR. EDMONDS! I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR SNIDE REMARKS!"

"GOSH, CORA, YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL. WHEN YOU'RE SORRY! I... I'VE NEVER FELT THIS WAY..."

DARLING...

"SUDDENLY, IMPULSIVELY, HE TOOK ME IN HIS ARMS! AND BEFORE I KNEW WHAT I WAS DOING, I WAS RESPONDING EAGERLY TO HIS FERVENT KISS!"

"HEY! IF YOU TWO YOUNG UN'S ARE IN LOVE, A STREET CORNER IS NO PLACE TO TELL EACH OTHER ABOUT IT!"

"IN LOVE? WELL, I KNOW I AM, BUT I DON'T KNOW WHETHER SHE..."

"...THAT KISS... I DIDN'T KNOW IT UNTIL THEN, BUT I GUESS IT'S HIT ME TOO, DARLING!"

"CORA, YOU'RE WONDERFUL! I FELL IN LOVE WITH YOU THE MOMENT YOU FELL DOWN IN FRONT OF ME... BUT I NEVER DARED TO HOPE THAT YOU... CORA, WILL YOU... THAT IS, WOULD YOU..."

"IF THIS IS A PROPOSAL, MARK... THE ANSWER'S YES!"



"THIS TIME IT WASN'T A HURRIED KISS... BUT THE REAL THING! MY HEART BEAT STRONGER... STRONGER... FOR I KNEW I'D FOUND MY MAN... FOREVER!"



"THE DAYS THAT FOLLOWED WERE FILLED WITH THROBBING EXCITEMENT! THINKING THE BIGSTORY OF SHOPPING FOR A TRousseau TOGETHER..."

"IT'S... LOVELY, DEAR! BUT I'VE BEEN THINKING, PERHAPS WE OUGHT TO POSTPONE THE WEDDING A WHILE... WITH MY SMALL SALARY AS A DANCE CRITIC, I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TO SUPPORT YOU PROPERLY!"

"NONSENSE, MARK! I'VE STILL GOT MY JOB AS A DANCE INSTRUCTRESS! ANYWAY, IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO BUY ME CLOTHES LIKE THIS!"



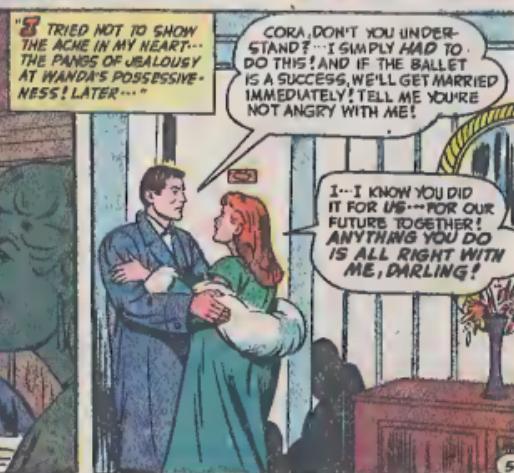
"THEN, ONE NIGHT, MARK ASKED ME TO GO WITH HIM TO A NEW BALLET!"



"CURIOS ABOUT THE SECRET, I AGREED TO GO!"



"AFTER THE SHOW, MARK TOOK ME BACK STAGE...."



"**B**EGAN COMING TO THE REHEARSALS EVERY DAY...I COULDN'T STAY AWAY!"



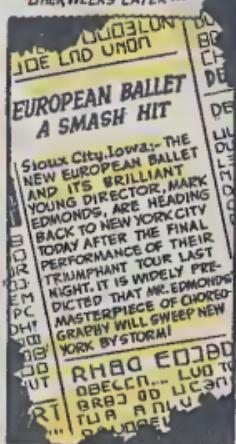
"**F**INALLY, THE TIME CAME FOR MARK AND THE BALLET TO LEAVE FOR THE OUT-OF-TOWN TRYOUTS..."



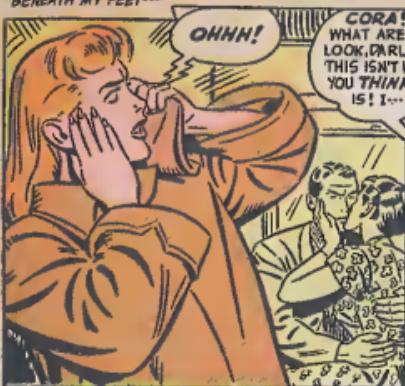
"**A**S THE TRAIN PULLED OUT, I HAD A STRANGE FOREBODING THAT EACH MILE HE TRAVELED WOULD TAKE HIM FURTHER FROM ME... AND CLOSER TO WANDA'S ARMS!"



"**T**HREE WEEKS LATER..."



"I THREW OPEN THE DOOR TO HIS COMPARTMENT--AND REELED BACK IN HORROR! I FELT THE WORLD DISSOLVING BEneath MY FEET..."



"WHEN ANGUISH AND HEARTBREAK GAVE WAY TO A COLD, RAGING ANGER!"



"CLUTCHED AT A HAND GRIP...HELD TIGHT! BUT WANDA'S MOMENTUM CARRIED HER FORWARD!"

OH-HH!



"NEXT MOMENT..."

HELP!
HELP!



"SOMEBODY AT ONE OF THE TRAIN WINDOWS SAW HER FALL, AND PULLED THE EMERGENCY CORD, STOPPING THE TRAIN! THEN...."

"LUCKY SHE ESCAPED THE WHEELS...BUT ONE LEG IS BADLY BROKEN--HEAD INJURIES, TOO! IF SHE'S A DANCER, LIKE YOU SAY, SHE'LL NEVER DANCE AGAIN!"



"SHE...SHE PUSHED ME, MARK, AND I ALMOST WENT OUT! I GRABBED HOLD AND THEN SHE LOST HER BALANCE AND..."

"A LIKELY STORY! YOU NEEDN'T BOTHER LYING ABOUT IT, LORA--YOU PUSHED HER FROM THE TRAIN OUT OF JEALOUSY! THIS TIME I'M TALKING--I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN!"



"Then..."

"IT WAS A NIGHT OF MISERY, OF ANGUISHED HEARTBREAK! A FEW SHORT HOURS AGO, THERE HAD BEEN ONLY LOVE--BUT NOW..."

"I CAN'T BLAME MARK--HE'S BEEN QUITLESS IN ALL THIS, AND APPEARANCES WERE AGAINST ME! IT'S MY FAULT, MY FAULT--OH, IF I HAD ONLY TRUSTED HIM!"



"IT WAS THE BEGINNING OF A NIGHTMARE PERIOD FOR ME! MY GRIEF AND ANGUISH WERE ALWAYS WITH ME, EVEN ON MY JOB..."



"...OR SHOULD
EUROPEAN BALLET
OPENING TONIGHT

"NEW YORK-- MARK EDMOND'S EUROPEAN BALLET OPENS TONIGHT ON SCHEDULE, DESPITE THE LOSS OF ITS STAR BALLERINA. A YOUNG UNDERSTUDY WILL DANCE THE LEAD ROLE..."

"THAT OPENING LURED ME LIKE A MAGNET--I COULDN'T STAY AWAY FOR MARK'S SAKE--I PRAYED IT WOULD BE A SUCCESS!"

"That night..."



"CONCERNED, I MADE MY WAY BACKSTAGE! THE STAGE-MANAGER KNEW ME -- BUT HE DIDN'T KNOW THAT MARK AND I HAD BROKEN UP!"

WHAT'S WRONG, PETER?

"OH, HELLO, MISS BARTON -- EVERYTHING'S WRONG! WANDA'S STAND-IN JUST CAME UP WITH THE WORST CASE OF STAGEFRIGHT I'VE EVER SEEN -- SHE'S HYSTERICAL! THE SHOW CAN'T GO ON WITHOUT HER 'AND MARK ISN'T HERE, EITHER! HE WAS CALLED TO THE HOSPITAL -- WANDA TOOK A TURN FOR THE WORSE!"

"MARK'S BALLET -- HEADED FOR RUIN! I SAW HIS HOPES AND FUTURE BLASTED -- AND IT WAS ALL MY FAULT! IF THERE WAS ONLY SOMETHING I COULD DO TO MAKE UP FOR THE HARM I'D CAUSED HIM -- AND THEN, SUDDENLY, I KNEW WHAT I WOULD HAVE TO DO!"



"YES, I'M A JAZZ-DANCER BY PREFERENCE, BUT I'M SOMETHING MORE THAN THAT -- A NATURAL DANCER! I TOOK BALLET TRAINING WHEN I WAS YOUNG, AND WHAT'S MORE, I ATTENDED ENOUGH REHEARSALS SO THAT I KNOW WANDA'S ROUTINES BY HEART!"

"WELL, OKAY! WELL, BOTH BE LAUGHED OUT OF TOWN BY TOMORROW, BUT THAT'S BETTER THAN CALLING OFF THE PERFORMANCE ENTIRELY!"

"THIS WOULD BE THE LEAST I COULD DO FOR MARK, FOR MY LOVE! THIS WOULD BE MY DANCE OF ROMANCE!"



"WITH EVERY UNFAMILIAR STEP A PRAYER, I COULD... GO THROUGH WITH IT? I KNEW I HAD TO, HAD TO -- BECAUSE THIS WAS GOING TO BE A MONUMENT TO MY LOVE FOR MARK... A MONUMENT TO A LOVE THAT COULD NEVER BE!"







THE FLEET'S IN! ... MAGIC WORDS THAT TELL OF FAST-BEATING HEARTS AND CAREFREE HAPPINESS! BUT SOMETIMES THERE ARE TEARS, TOO, AND THE SOUL-SEARING ANGUISH THAT CAN COME TO A GIRL WHO'S

As Sailor Sweetheart

IT ALL BEGAN ON A SUNNY DAY IN JUNE, WHEN MARY AMBERS RECEIVED THAT FATEFUL CALL ...

I PROMISED YOU A GOOD TIME IF YOU CAME TO VISIT ME, JILL ... AND THIS IS IT! I'VE JUST ARRANGED A DATE FOR US WITH A COUPLE OF SAILORS!

SAILORS! BUT... BUT THEY GO FOR THAT GIRL-IN-EVERY-PORT STUFF, MARY... AND I'M NOT EXACTLY THE TYPE FOR THAT!

GET DRESSED YOU DODO, AND FORGET IT... WE'RE ONLY GOING ON A PICNIC ANYWAY! THAT WAS TONY THAT CALLED AND I KNOW HIM -- HE'S A GOOD GUY, FROM A WEALTHY FAMILY!

BUT YOU DON'T KNOW WHOM HE'S BRINGING FOR ME... AND THAT'S WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT!





"**EE** WAS SHOCKED BY THE DARING OF MY OWN WORDS! COULD THIS BE JILL BOOTH, WHO'D ALWAYS BEEN SO PROPER? IT WAS AS IF JAKE HAD CAST A SPELL OVER ME... A SWEET SPELL WHICH CLUNG THROUGHOUT THE AFTERNOON..."



"THE REST OF THE DAY FLED IN A SHIMMERING HAZE OF DELIGHT! FOR A BOY AND A GIRL HAD FOUND EACH OTHER... AND WERE LOST IN THE MIRACLE OF NEWBORN LOVE!"



"NOTHING LIKE THIS HAS EVER HAPPENED TO ME BEFORE, HONEY! IT'S CRAZY--WE'VE ONLY JUST MET--BUT I'M HEAD-OVER-HEELS ABOUT YOU!"



"**I** CAN STILL REMEMBER THAT WONDERFUL TRIP BACK TO THE CITY, WITH TONY'S CAR SWIMMING TO GLIDE ON ROSE-COLORED CLOUDS!"

"YOU'LL SEE ME AGAIN TONIGHT, SWEETHEART--TONY'S TAKING US TO HIT THE BROADWAY NOT-SPOTS! MAYBE YOU SHOULD HAVE FOUND SOMEBODY LIKE HIM--INSTEAD OF A POOR GO-
LIKE ME!"



"I DON'T CARE IF YOU'RE AS POOR AS A CHURCHMOUSE! I'M HAPPY TO BE JUST A SAILOR'S SWEETHEART--IF YOU'RE THE SAILOR, JAKE!"

"**T**HEY CAME THE DRAGGING HOURS UNTIL I SHOULD SEE HIM ONCE MORE..."

"THERE IT IS... HIS SHIP! HE'S ON IT NOW! BUT I'LL SEE HIM SOON!... DO YOU KNOW I'M THINKING ABOUT YOU, JAKE DARLING?"



"OH... MARY! I DON'T KNOW HOW TO EXPLAIN IT--I MUST BE IN A PAZE! FUNNY, I'VE HAD LOTS OF DATES BEFORE--BUT I NEVER GAVE BOYS A SECOND THOUGHT UNTIL I MET JAKE! AND NOW I'M SO IN LOVE WITH HIM THAT IF ANYTHING HAPPENED..."



"FINALLY, THE HORN TOLD US THEY WERE WAITING BELOW! BUT AS I RUSHED TO MEET THE MAN I LOVED..."

I COULD HARDLY WAIT UNTIL... OH! YOU... YOU'RE NOT JAKE!

RIGHT, BABY! ACE SANDERS AT YOUR SERVICE... THE NAVY'S GIFT TO WOMEN!



"THEN THE STORY CAME OUT... JAKE HAD RECEIVED A SUDDEN ASSIGNMENT TO SHORE PATROL! I DIDN'T WANT TO GO, BUT..."

GOSH, JILL, I GOT THE RESERVATIONS AND EVERYTHING! BE A SPORT AND DON'T BREAK UP THE PARTY!

WELL... I WOULDN'T WANT TO SPOIL YOUR GOOD TIME SO... OKAY!



"I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN! WITH THESE WORDS, MY DREAM OF LOVE ENDED! WITH NOTHING LEFT BUT GRIEF AND HEARTBREAK, I RETURNED HOME...AND STROVE TO FORGET MEN FOREVER!"

NO USE TRYING TO
GET HER ATTENTION!
THAT'S JILL BOOTH...
MAN-HATER!

HONK!
HONK!

"YES, MAN-HATER... UNTIL THAT FATEFUL TELEGRAM ARRIVED!"



"MY BEATING HEART COUNTED THE MOMENTS UNTIL I REACHED NEW YORK AGAIN! IT WAS VISITORS' DAY ABOARD THE NAVY SHIPS..."

THERE HE IS, JILL...
...YOUR SAILOR-BOY!

WAIT, KID!
THERE'S SOMETHING
I WANT TO TELL...

OH, JAKE! JAKE,
DARLING!

WHAT
THE...!

"I HAD HOPE TO HEAR WORDS
OF LOVE, OF TENDER HAPPINESS.
BUT INSTEAD..."

SO IT'S YOU AGAIN, EH? HOW
LOW CAN A WOMAN SINK? I TOLD
YOU ONCE I WAS THROUGH
WITH YOU...AND I MEANT IT!
NOW GET OUT...
FAST!

OH, N-NO!
YOU CAN'T
MEAN...

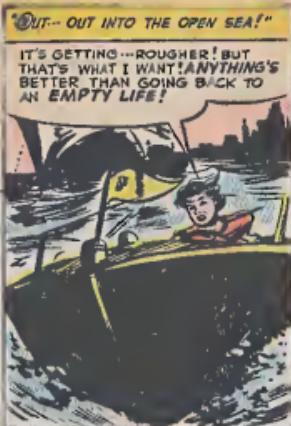


"IT WAS AS IF MY LIFE HAD ENDED, AND ONLY BLASTED HOPES REMAINED! I KNEW THAT I HAD TO GET AWAY FROM THERE...AWAY!"



"...I NEVER WANT TO SEE HIM AGAIN! THERE'S...NOTHING LEFT FOR ME!"





ROMEO of the RANCH

"IT'S A FAR CRY FROM A CULTURED AND LOVELY AUTHORRESS TO A RUGGED RIDER OF THE RAHGE, ISN'T IT? NOT MUCH CHANCE, THEN, THAT DIANA MORRISON COULD ACCEPT THE LOVE OF A SIMPLE, UHTUTORED COWBOY! IT WAS QUITE A JOKE ON TEX RANDALL--- SO GO AHEAD AND LAUGH, DIANA! LAUGH---BUT YOUD BETTER WIPE THAT TEAR AWAY FIRST!"



"FROM CHILDHOOD, I'D HAD BUT ONE AMBITION--TO BE A FAMOUS WRITER! AND NOW I'D ACHIEVED IT---BUT WHY DID MY SUCCESS SEEM SO EMPTY?"

"WOW! IT'S DIANA MORRISON
---COME TO SEE THE PICTURE THEY
ADAPTED FROM HER BEST-
SELLER!"



"THE CRITICS HAD HAILED 'ROMEO OF THE RANCH' AS THE GREATEST WESTERN LOVE STORY EVER WRITTEN--- AND HERE IT WAS ON THE SCREEN FOR THE WORLD TO APPLAUD! MISERABLY, I STARED TOWARD THE FILM--- REMEMBERING--REMEMBERING..."

"OH TEK,
TEK-- BE
CAREFUL!"

"SHUCKS, MA'AM,
YUH GOT NO CALL
TO WORRY!"



"REMEMBER HOW IT REALLY HAD BEEN---HOW, AS AN UNKNOWN YOUNG WRITER, I HAD JOURNEYED TO ARIZONA, SEEKING MATERIAL FOR THE WESTERN LOVE NOVEL I PLANNED..."



"IF ONLY I COULD GET CLOSE TO HIM... STUDY HIM! BUT HOW? IT WAS TEX WHO GAVE ME THE SOLUTION..."

GUESS YUH DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE WEST, HUH?... SAY, MEBBE I COULD TEACH YUH!

WHY, THAT WOULD BE JUST...SWELL!



"TEX, AND ME---IT WAS RIDICULOUS! BUT I HAD TO FIND OUT ABOUT A COWBOY... AND ROMANCE! PERHAPS I LED HIM ON..."

DANCIN' WITH YUH... HAVIN' YUH IN
MY ARMS THIS WAY... IT'S GIVEN
ME THE COURAGE TO TELL YUH
SOMETHIN'! LET'S-- GO OUTSIDE,
HUH?

HERE IT COMES!
EVERYTHING HE SAYS AND
DOES--I'LL REMEMBER
IT FOR MY BOOK!



DIANA---DARLIN'...
EVER SINCE I SAW
YUH, I CAN'T GET
YUH OUT OF MY
MIND! YUH'VE
GOTTEN TO
MEAN SO
MUCH TO
ME---

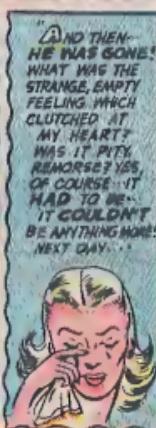
YES...
GO ON...

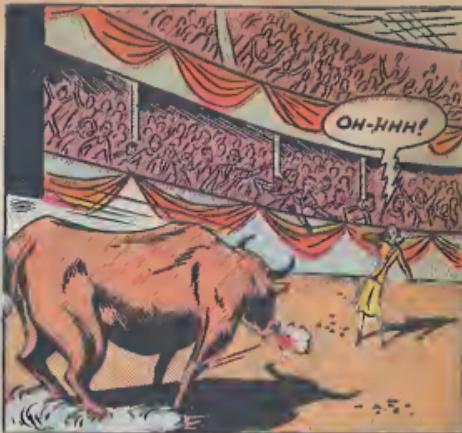




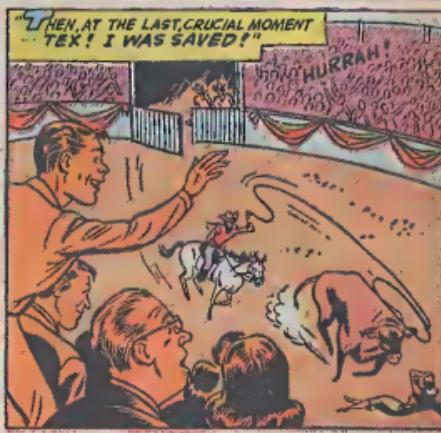
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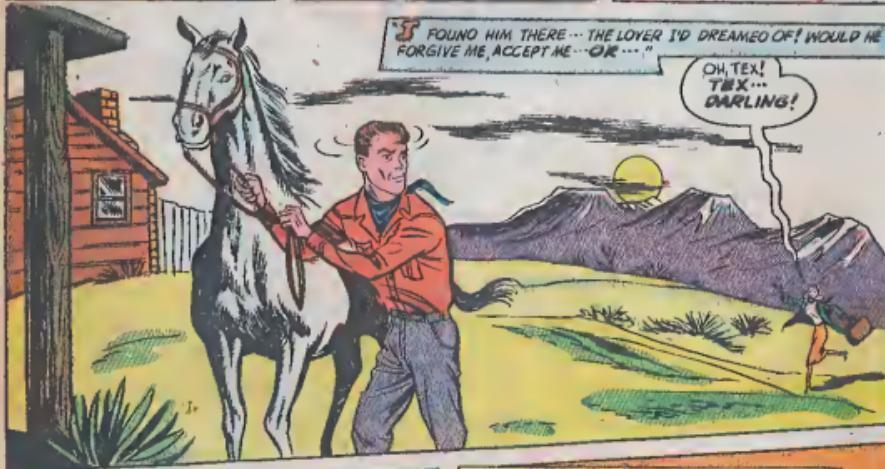






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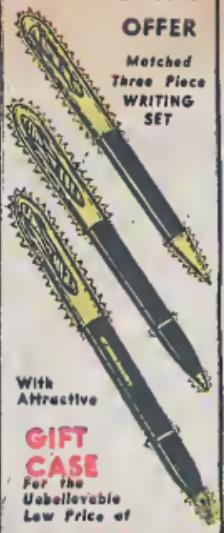


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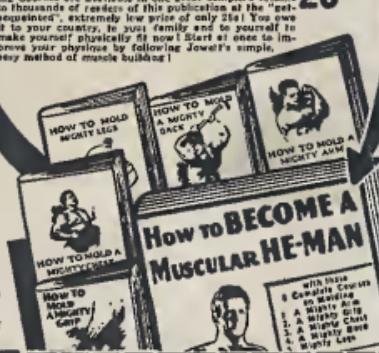
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